SUBJECTS.

represented were prepared to attend to the Maramat works in the Allams.

Dewan's reply.—Please submit a petition to that effect signed by all the proprietors on whose behalf you bring forward the proposal.

VI. Sanitation, Vital Statistics and Medical Relief.

42. Elective system of membership for the Town Improvement Committees.

Mr. K. Atchuthan Pillai (Member, Trivandrum Taluk) requested that the privilege of electing the non-official members of the Town Improvement Committees might be conferred upon the people. He added that the inhabitants of the towns were being asked to pay local taxes and that therefore they could claim this privilege of electing the non-official members of the Town Improvement Commmittees all the more strongly. He prayed that Government might be pleased to give the matter their best consideration.

Dewan's reply.—The Presidents of all the Committees have recommended the adoption of the elective system. As all the Committees have now resolved to levy local taxation, Government are prepared to allow the concession. Rules for the purpose are being drafted.

43. Increased grants to the Town Improvement Committees.

Mr. P. M. Chacko (Member, T. I. C., Kottayam) stated that 15 years ago Government were pleased to sanction a grant of Rs. 4,000 to the Kottayam T. I. C. Although the grant was Rs. 4,000, the Kottayam T. I. C. either did not feel the neccessity of supplying certain needs or those needs did not press their claims on the Committee. It spent only Rs. 2,8[illegible] and the balance was credited to Government. In subsequent years, the grants were slightly increased by small amounts and in 1075 the grant rose to Rs. 4,690. From that year forward the grant decreased to Rs. 4,396 in 1082 and Rs. 4,300 in 1083. In 1084, with a view to stimulate local effort and self-help, the Government made a reduction of Rs. 1,300 on the previous year's grant, and as the Committee had no funds at its disposal for meeting current expenses, it was driven to the necessity of reducing the staff and of cutting down the number of lamps. In the hot season, the season of epidemics, the Committee could not, without the necessary funds, carry on the work that was entrusted to it. The estimate for the current year was Rs. 5,000 and the Committee was making every effort to find the necessary funds. The houses were being taxed, but at the highest reckoning the income from this head would come to only Rs. 750 a year and the income from other sources would be about Rs. 350, and still an amount of Rs. 900 was wanted. The Member

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